



# Academic Standards and Threshold Learning Outcomes

National ALTA  
ICT Education Workshop  
Steve Drew

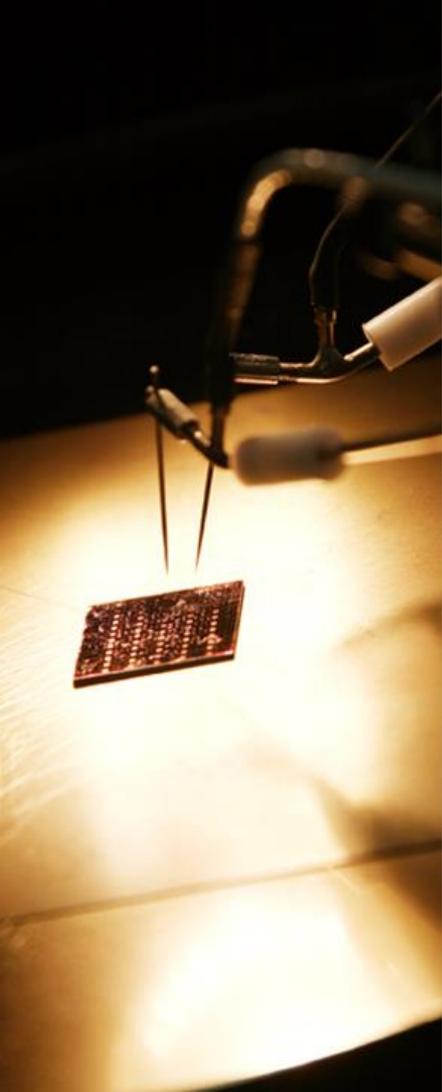
2015



## Aims for this session

### Gain ALTA member input toward:

- Review of 2010 LTAS threshold learning outcomes statement for ICT
- Creation of an ICT-specific academic standards statement
- Involvement in ICT-specific assessment benchmarking
- Highlight next steps



## On standards and quality

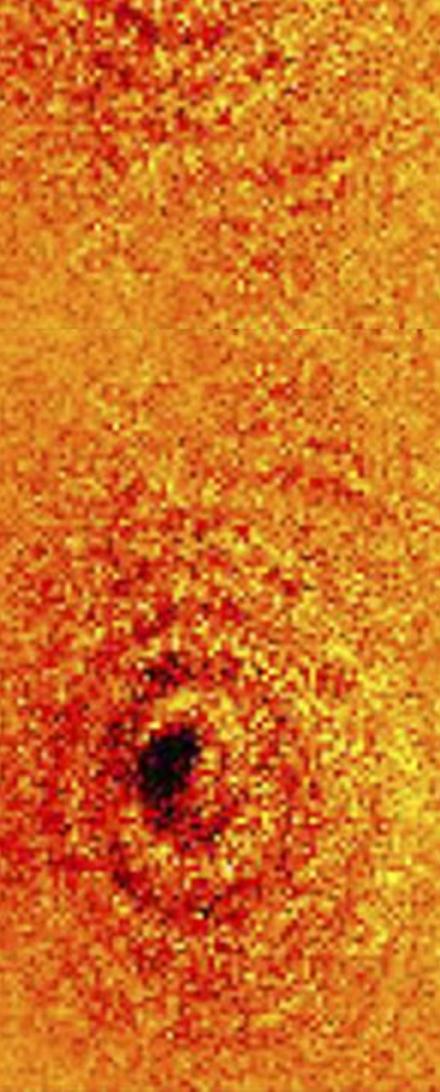
*“A true quality assurance program (for any product or enterprise) works to constant standards, not just getting peer consensus from occasion to occasion. How can we be rigorous in doing this?” (E. Prof. Royce Saddler, UQ)*



## Learning outcomes

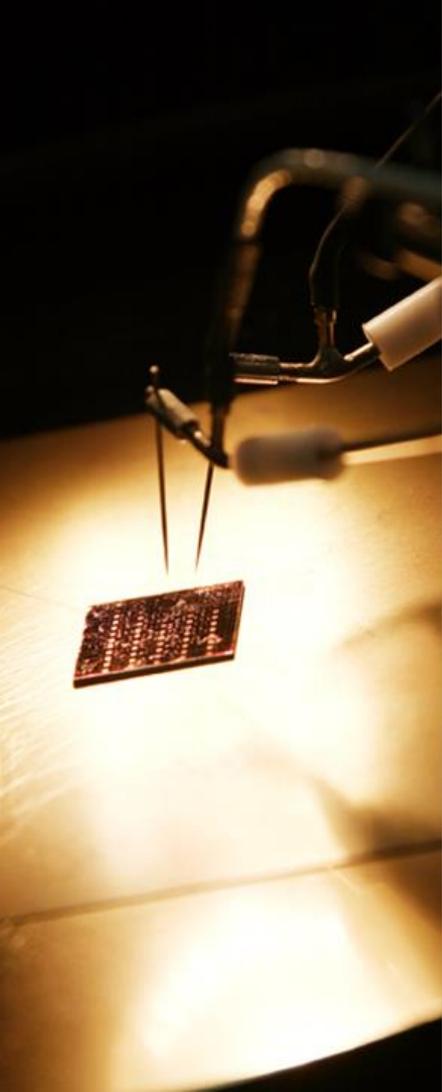
At the end of this workshop it is anticipated that a participant will be able to:

- *Differentiate ICT disciplines and appropriate accrediting bodies*
- Explain the value of building on TLOs to create academic standards for the ICT discipline
- *Critique “The nature and extent of ICT” statement to determine relevance and gaps*
- *List major ICT discipline knowledge and skills that would need to be demonstrated on completion of a capstone project in each discipline area (e.g. for ICT, IS, CS, or MM)*
- Explain the value of academic standards for quality benchmarking and accreditation



## History, context and need

- Extant ICT documents describe curriculum (what to teach) rather than detailing desired ***learning outcomes*** (what will be learned)
- Other disciplines; e.g. Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, etc., already have Academic Standards Statements that ***detail TLOs***
- Academic Standards allow ***mutual agreement*** on graduate learning outcomes and appropriate assessment design



## Activity 1: Brain starter (antifreeze)

Engage with multiple choice questions on the provided worksheet (5 min)

- How would you divide / categorize the constituent areas of the ICT discipline?
- How should ICT programs that include the term “Engineering” in their descriptor be categorized and professionally accredited?

Report back (5 min)

*Resources: ICT Career Wheel*

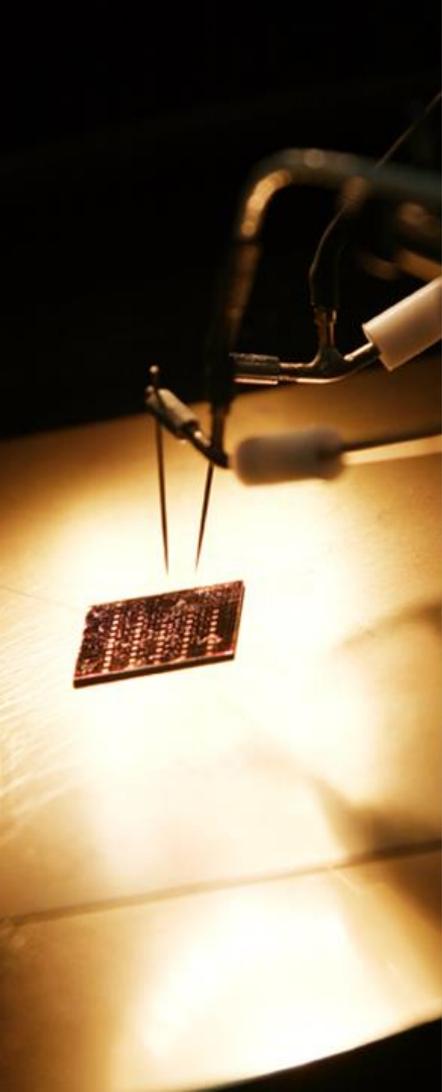


## Context and Content

Brief review of documents – (what to aim for)

- Engineering stage 1 competencies
- RACI (Draft) Academic Standards for Chemistry
- ALTC 2010 LTAS statement (a starting point)
  - Tip hat to Roger Hadgraft & Ian Cameron
- A way forward
  - A very preliminary draft based on above
  - Need your help on some items...

*Resources: Docs mentioned above*

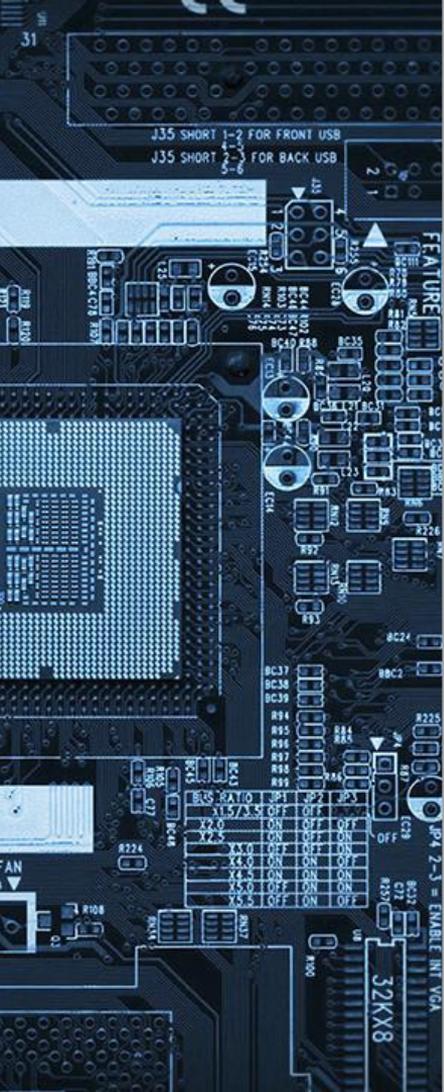


## Activity 2: Getting critical (in groups)

Engage in critique of 2005 “Nature and extent of ICT” statement (10 min)

- Is the statement still complete and relevant?
- Is there anything missing?
- Is it future-proof?

Fill in template document with review statements then report back (10 min)

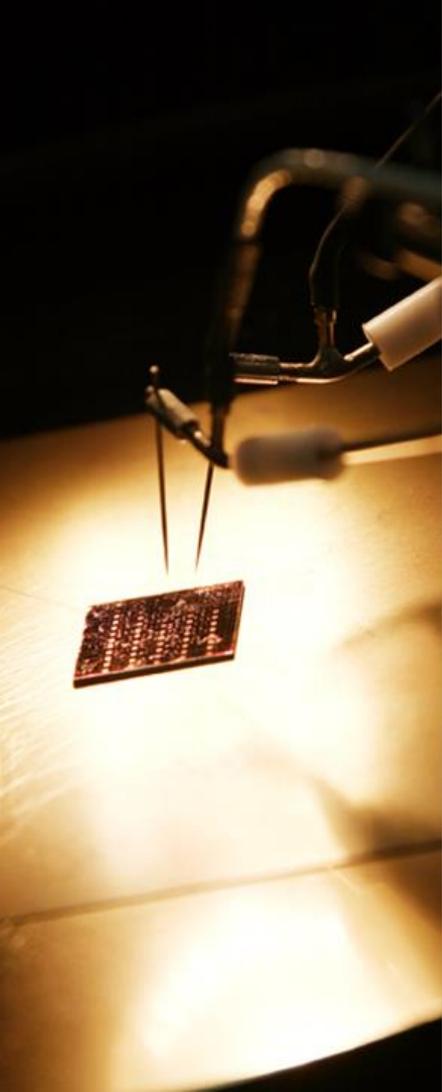


## Contributions of extant ICT documentation

Relevant documents that can assist with the development of an ICT Academic Standards statement:

- ALTC 2010 LTAS project report ENG&ICT
- ACS Professional Body of Knowledge
- SFIA v5 Framework
- Learning outcomes reference (Macquarie Uni.)

Each has its contributions and limitations as a reference – next step requires your assistance



## Activity 3: Divide and conquer

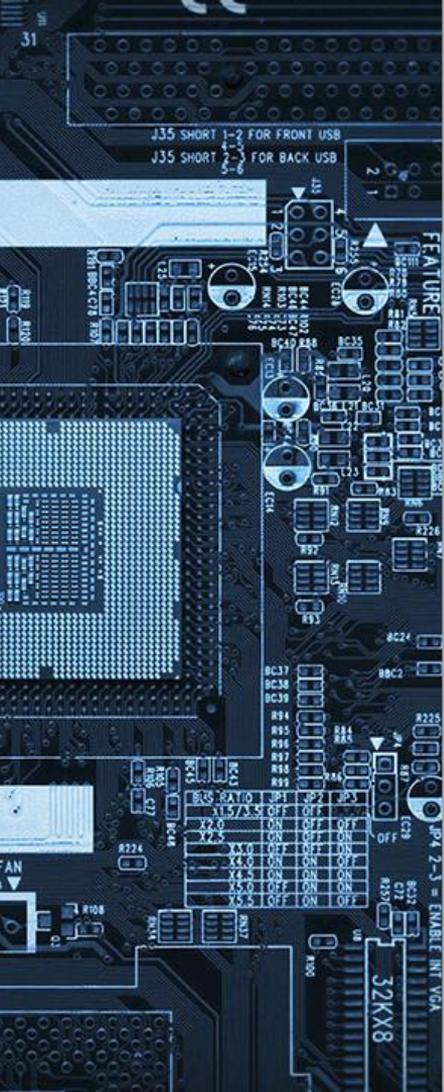
- *To discipline groupings (IT, CS, IS, MM) or (ACS Foundation: Content & Design, Technology Services, Product Development, Business Services)*
- Working in ICT discipline groups and on the supplied butchers' paper, briefly describe the industry relevant skills & knowledge (learning outcomes) that a student completing WIL or other capstone project in your discipline area would ideally demonstrate (20 minutes)
- Report back (10 minutes)



## ICT Academic Standards: Next steps

- Collaborate on completing a draft statement
- Validate document in mock accreditation process
  - Elaborate implications for assessment design
- Get ACDICT & accrediting body validation
- Create a Peer Review of Assessment Network
  - Dr Sara Booth (UTAS) OLT National Peer Review of Assessment Network
  - Create ALTA\_PRAN for ICT

If you would like to be part of ALTA\_PRAN sign up!



## Contact me

For more information:

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Many thanks for participating!

Don't forget to sign on as a contact for reviewing the draft academic standards statement and becoming part of the ALTA\_PRAN